

need it. Her service and advocacy are rooted deeply in her strong sense of justice and wherever she goes she is a compassionate and effective voice for the urgent need for the nation to redouble its commitment to HIV/AIDS.

I know well the power of her work in Atlanta and here on Capitol Hill where she is a highly regarded expert. She has the ability to help members and staff alike understand the needs on the frontlines and what we, in turn, must do to respond to those needs.

I rise to honor Ms. Muther's contributions and to express my gratitude that she continues on in service to this vital cause.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF MR.
HOOPER MATTHEWS, JR.

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2006

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, Escambia County and indeed the entire state of Alabama recently lost a dear friend, and I rise today to honor him and pay tribute to his memory. Mr. Hooper Matthews, Jr., known as "Big Hoop" to his children and grandchildren, was a devoted family man and dedicated community leader throughout his life.

Hooper was born in Nashville but made his way to Atmore, Alabama, in 1948. He was a graduate of the University of Georgia where he earned a degree in Forestry, which he used while managing his family timberlands as a registered forester. He also owned the Pepsi-Cola Bottling Co. of Atmore and South Alabama Vending Company. He was awarded the Atmore Area Chamber of Commerce's lifetime achievement award in 2005.

Hooper was a strong believer in the future of Atmore. His work as president of the A.C. Moore Elementary PTA as well as his work on the board of directors of Escambia Academy exemplified his vision for creating a strong foundation in the community's children.

He also supported programs such as Read America, the Huxford Elementary School Reading Initiative, scouting events, the YMCA, and drug and alcohol education, to name just a few of his many pet projects.

Not only did Hooper give back to Atmore through his work with children, but he contributed in more ways than most people might realize to Atmore's economic viability through his business ventures.

His work with the Atmore Chamber of Commerce, where he served as a past president, brought Masland Carpets to the area and raised funds for Atmore schools as well as The American Cancer Society, The American Heart Association, Williams Station Day, Mayfest, and the Poarch Band of Creek Indians.

Even with his numerous professional obligations, Hooper always found time to share his love for the land with anyone and everyone who was interested.

Many a child in south Alabama shot their first deer by his side, and on any given day, you could expect to see someone hunting with him. His kind generosity touched many people throughout the First District but was felt with the most warmth back at home. He always had an infectious smile on his face and a love for people that was real and genuine.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering a dedicated community leader and friend to many throughout south Alabama. Hooper Matthews, Jr., loved life and lived it to the fullest, and his passing marks a tremendous loss for all of south Alabama. He will be deeply missed by many, most especially his family and the countless friends he leaves behind. Our thoughts and prayers are with them all at this difficult time.

TRIBUTE TO ZACHARY L. COOPER

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2006

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the memory of a remarkable citizen, Mr. Zachary L. Cooper of Madison, Wisconsin. Mr. Cooper was an educator and scholar who devoted his life to the study and teaching of black history. He was widely known as one of the state's most prominent chroniclers of African-American history.

Zachary Cooper was born in Brunswick, GA, in 1935, and eventually settled in Madison, Wisconsin. After spending 2 years in the Army Medical Corps, Mr. Cooper went on to earn a bachelor's degree in European history from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He followed that with a master's degree in American history and earned his Ph.D in curriculum and instruction from the Ohio State University-Columbus.

Mr. Cooper spent much of his career documenting the history of black settlers, authoring "Black Settlers in Rural Wisconsin" and creating a documentary called "Coming Together, Coming Apart" which used oral histories, photos and diaries to preserve evidence of early black families in Wisconsin. Mr. Cooper was also a lecturer for a variety of institutions including the Wisconsin Historical Society, the University of Wisconsin, Edgewood College, Madison Area Technical College, and the Madison School District.

Mr. Cooper's passion was working with children. As president of the board of directors at the Early Childhood Learning Center, he was able to impact the lives of all the children at the center.

In the spring of 1992, Cooper co-founded JAMAD (Jamaica-Madison Cultural Exchange), a program that creates connections between hardworking students in Wisconsin and Jamaica. Through the program, students establish pen pal relationships which culminate in the students from Wisconsin making a trip to Jamaica to learn more about their peers and the culture.

With the passing of Zachary L. Cooper, the world has lost a great scholar, and Wisconsin has lost a great teacher, citizen, and friend.

VARIOUS FOREIGN POLICY SUSPENSION BILLS AT THE END OF THE 109TH CONGRESS

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2006

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my concern about the House of Rep-

resentatives at the last minute rushing to the floor dozens of bills spending tens of millions of dollars and interfering in the affairs of foreign countries. Mr. Speaker, we woke up this morning with the surprise announcement that we would face at least 35 of these suspension bills. Suspension bills are customarily non-controversial—naming post offices and the like. I can hardly think of anything more controversial than sending tens of millions of U.S. taxpayer dollars overseas to interfere in the affairs of foreign countries.

The suspension calendar is being used to pass the reauthorization of the Export-Import Bank, which funnels millions of U.S. taxpayer dollars to foreign governments. For example, through the Export-Import Bank, Americans are forced to subsidize China's economic growth with some \$4 billion dollars per year. Is this not controversial?

Additionally, today's suspension bills will turn an additional 52 million dollars in foreign aid over to the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Is this not controversial?

Possibly more damaging in today's "non-controversial" suspension bills are the several bills that seek to meddle in the affairs of foreign countries. Today's suspension bills, whether they regard Lebanon, Iran, Congo, or Nepal, make it clear that we still have not learned the lessons we should have learned from Iraq and all of our previous interventions that have gone awry. Mr. Speaker, it is bad enough that Congress acts as if its jurisdiction extends across the entire globe, must we add insult to injury by treating this as simply run of the mill, noncontroversial legislation?

SOBER TRUTH ON PREVENTING UNDERAGE DRINKING ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN SULLIVAN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 14, 2006

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Sober Truth on Preventing Underage Drinking Act (Stop Act), which tackles an important issue facing families in every congressional district, the issue of underage drinking. If present for rollcall vote 521 on H.R. 864, the measure would have my strong support.

The Stop Act serves to restate the importance of state alcohol laws in fighting underage drinking while supplementing federal research and advocacy with additional funds. I am proud to support this legislation to confront the growing problem of underage drinking.

HONORING DR. PATRICK MCKIERNAN

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2006

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Patrick McKiernan, a remarkable public servant and advocate from my home state of Kentucky. Dr. McKiernan presently serves as Outreach Coordinator to Homeless Veterans for the Kentucky Department of Veteran Affairs.